

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 611  
By Stulce

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend James Merle Crawley on receiving the Tennessee Association of Conservation Districts' Distinguished Service Award.

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee is proud to specially salute citizens who have made significant contributions to the promotion of agriculture in our state; and

WHEREAS, for his more than half a century of exemplary leadership to agriculture, James Merle Crawley was recently honored with the prestigious Tennessee Association of Conservation Districts' Distinguished Service Award; and

WHEREAS, the son of James Melvin and Laura Isabelle (May) Crawley, he was born in Sale Creek, Tennessee, on December 25, 1921; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawley graduated from Sale Creek High School in 1940, and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Education from the University of Tennessee in 1950; and

WHEREAS, he taught vocational agriculture at Sale Creek High School beginning in 1945, and was highly praised by the administration, faculty, students and parents for his extraordinary diligence and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawley later went to Soddy-Daisy Jr. High School, where he compiled an equally impressive record, before his retirement; and

**\*20000000\***

20000000

**\*013873\***

\*01387326\*

WHEREAS, he also served expertly and successfully as a head baseball coach for 12 years and as an assistant baseball coach for 9 years; and

WHEREAS, his numerous contributions to the education profession include commendable service as the Hamilton County Education Association Faculty Representative and as Chairman of the Hamilton County Department of Education Professional Improvement Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawley helped organize a Soil Conservation District in 1951, was appointed to the board of directors for the district and currently serves admirably as Chairman of that board. He also served on the Tennessee Association of Conservation Districts' Board of Directors for six productive years; and

WHEREAS, he also assisted in setting up the Resource, Conservation and Development Association for Southeast Tennessee, served as the group's president and treasurer and as a member of their board of directors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawley's numerous honors include recognition by the 4-H and Future Farmers of America; he received the Honorary State Farmers degree and was selected as an Outstanding Community Leader of East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawley married Virginia Lorene Fox on June 26, 1945, and this blessed union has produced three loving children, William Stanley, Virginia Merlene, and Cathy Ann Crawley; and

WHEREAS, Lorene and Merle are active members of the Soddy-Daisy First Baptist Church, where Merle has played an important role in the improvement of the church grounds and the church building; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially recognize this outstanding citizen of our state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we honor and commend James Merle Crawley and wish him much success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.